

FIELDNOTES

A Common Field One Day, A Field of Honor Forever



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UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Visitor Center in the snow - Brenda Torrey

As the memorial prepares for another busy season of welcoming tourists and visitors to Flight 93, the Friends and park staff are busy preparing for some of the many events and activities happening over the next few months.

See where you can get involved and volunteer to support the Friends mission:

Plant a Tree

The seventh annual reforestation initiative will take place on April 27 and April 28. Volunteers are needed to help plant 14,960 trees across 22 acres as we near our goal of 150,000 newly planted seedlings across the memorial landscape. More information on page 5!

Hydration History

Aiming to reach college students to engage them with volunteering at Flight 93 National Memorial, this event is to raise money for and bring awareness to WEPA's planned alternative break program hosted by Flight 93. Join us for a fun-filled night of "How Luck Changed History" on Friday, April 13th at 7 pm on the 5th floor of the Johnstown Area Heritage Discovery Center.

[Register today](#) to attend! More information on page 4.

Speaker Series

A second year of the educational speaker series programs at Flight 93 are back for a summer-long run. Mark your calendars for the following event dates with speakers to be announced to soon:

May 19-20, June 16-17, July 21-22 and August 18-19

Mid-Year Membership Meeting

The Friends of Flight 93 are preparing to host its annual mid-year membership meeting on June 7. Last year members met at the Tower of Voices site to get an update on the final feature of the memorial from Superintendent Steve Clark. Plans for this year's meeting are in the works. Please mark your calendars and join fellow Friends of Flight 93 members for an evening of activities

Strategic Planning Looking to the Future

The Friends of Flight 93 have steadily grown since being established in 2009. With the completion of the Tower of Voices this September, we are looking to transition from a construction focus. This transition will begin with a strategic plan and focus to the future. The Board of Directors of the Friends of Flight 93 engaged John Skelly as an external consultant to facilitate the strategic planning process.

The process started with surveying and checking in with our key stakeholders. Volunteers, Friends' members and key donors were asked to provide us with feedback about how we are doing and where there might be gaps in their expectations of our organization. The next step involved surveying the board directors, National Park Service and National Park Foundation partners, and asking for their vision of the memorial in three to five years from now.

The planning session started with re-establishing the organizational vision and mission. The board also identified key strategic priorities for the next 5 years. The next step is to identify goals and objectives to support these key strategic priorities. These goals will be assigned to either individual board members, staff, or standing committees for accountability of tracking and goal completion.

Once these goals and objectives are finalized the friend's board will embark upon a communication and engagement process with Friends' members, volunteers, key donors and the park service to assist with the execution and achievement of goals.

The strategic plan will be utilized in coordination with the Friends and NPS annual work plan, which lists out yearly activities and events, fundraising needed to complete each category and responsible parties in charge. The annual work plan includes annual events, grants work, Friends of Flight 93 projects as well as the park service departmental goals through interpretation, education, and maintenance.

The Friends organization previously held a strategic planning session in 2009 at the infancy of the organization. After nine years of growth and partnership with the memorial, the Friends are extremely excited about the next stage of our support for Flight 93.

Flight Path at dusk - Brenda Torrey

Meet our new Board Directors!

The Friends membership elected three [new board directors](#) at last September's annual membership meeting. Please join us in welcoming Jody Greene, David Finui, and Ed Sheehan, Jr. to the Friends of Flight 93 organization!

With the addition of the new directors, the Friends will expand its skill set, professional talent support and community outreach to continue the story of Flight 93.

We are proud to welcome Jody Greene, a Flight 93 family member whose father Donald Greene was on board Flight 93 on September 11, 2001; David Finui, Senior Vice President, Personal Trust and Financial Services Manager for Ameriserv Corporation; and Edward Sheehan, Jr., President and CEO of Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC).

Ms. Greene replaces outgoing President Patrick White's representation of the Families of Flight 93 within the organization. Ms. Greene graduated Magna Cum Laude from George Washington University and currently works as a digital associate for the Moak Group. Her expertise in marketing and digital mediums will be a great asset to the organization. Mr. Finui is bringing his financial expertise to the board and has also accepted the position as Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Sheehan, Jr. is well known in the Cambria/Somerset area for his extensive philanthropy. He was also named in the "Top 100 Business Leaders" by Pennsylvania Business Central and brings his expertise level to the Friends of Flight 93 after much support in the past from CTC for annual events such as the September 11 Observance.

The Friends board leadership is changing as well with President Donna Gibson of First National Bank taking the reigns from Patrick White, who retired in December after nine years of service. Deborah Borza will be leading as Vice President along with Treasurer Don Alexander, Assistant Treasurer David Finui, Secretary Sheena Baker and Assistant Secretary Tom Rooney. With the addition of the new directors the Friends leadership now extends from Pittsburgh to Somerset, Johnstown and the Washington D.C. areas.



Brooke Neel, Henry Scully, and Donna Gibson present a retirement gift to Patrick White.

Tom McMillan, Friends board member and author of *Flight 93: The Story, the Aftermath, and the Legacy of American Courage on 9/11* will be presenting a program on July 13 in the Learning Center to the Pennsylvania Defense Institute (PDI).

The PDI will be holding its 50th annual conference at Bedford Springs. PDI is one of the largest organizations of its kind, boasting an impressive membership of approximately 400 lawyers, executives of insurance companies, self-insurers, and independent adjusters. PDI establishes a communications link among Pennsylvania civil litigation defense attorneys, full-time supervising or managerial employees of insurance companies, self-insurers, independent adjusters, and others who devote a substantial portion of their time to defense of damage suits or to claims administration.

Tom McMillan will present an educational program on the story of Flight 93 and hold a Q&A session before the group explores the memorial after his presentation.

The Friends will also be providing signed copy's of the *Flight 93* book to all PDI participants.

This program highlights the functionality of the Learning Center space for programs, speakers and outside use from

organizations with the goal of eventually utilizing the Learning Center as a revenue generation factor to support the Friends operations.

This event is not a public program but still a special opportunity highlighting the unique partnerships formed between the Friends, National Park Service and many other national organizations.

To learn more about PDI visit padefense.org/.

Welcome New Members!

December

Deborah Brooks, Joseph L. Holt, Cheryl J. Peckenpaugh, and Jeffrey L. Shoemaker

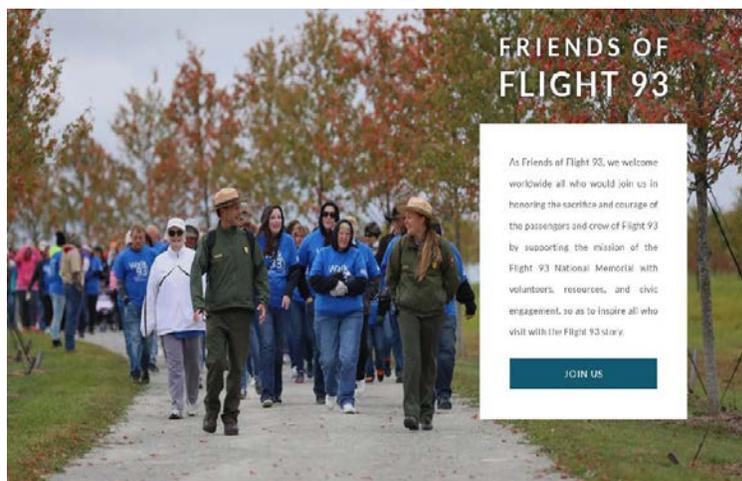
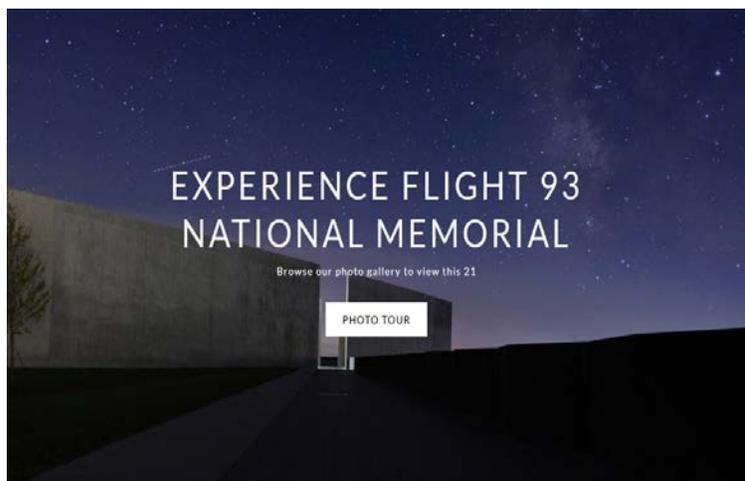
January

Tom Green, Kenneth Hanula, and Patricia A. Hudson

March

John Bonaroti, Jill M. Carson, Donna-lyn Gerhart, Marianna Hazel, Beverly Kohlhoff, Eric Matvey, and Eric Oliver

Friends Website: New Homepage and Membership Portal!



Thanks to the generosity of a Somerset County Tourism grant, the [Friends homepage](#) has a new design focusing on video integration, and a more visual template to help educate visitors on the memorial features and how the Friends organization supports Flight 93 National Memorial.

With video provided by Wild Excellence Films, the new webpage features a video introduction to the memorial that may be changed to help promote events, features and the landscape. Scrolling down, visitors are introduced to the Friends organization through a new outline that includes the Explore + Learn section, joining the Friends membership and how to get involved in activities at Flight 93.

Also new to the homepage re-design is a new [members page](#) that will be updated with new membership benefits, events and activities. On the members page is a description of the volunteer spotlight with a button to share your story and read the featured volunteer story of the month! Additional website upgrades are in the works to include audio of oral histories and more!



Hydration History

Presented by the Friends of Flight 93, National Western Parks of Pennsylvania (WEPA) and the Johnstown Area Heritage Association, this event is to raise money for and bring awareness to WEPA's planned alternative break program hosted by Flight 93 National Memorial.

Flight 93 National Memorial will host 10-12 students from Penn State DuBois during this year's Plant a Tree at Flight 93 event for the memorial's first-ever alternative break service program. The students will learn about topics such as reforestation, strip mine reclamation, the story of Flight 93, careers in the National Park Service, active citizenship and volunteerism, as well as have an opportunity to experience hands-on field work with foresters during the annual reforestation event. Please join us for a fun-filled night of "How Luck Changed History" on Friday, April 13 at 7pm at the Johnstown Area Heritage Discovery Center!



PLANT A TREE

We are one step closer to our goal of 150,000 planted trees at Flight 93 National Memorial!

For the seventh year in a row, volunteers are needed to assist the Friends, National Park Service and National Park Foundation to plant thousands of tree seedlings at Flight 93 as part of a major reforestation effort aimed at reclaiming the former surface mine site landscape.

This year volunteers will work with team leaders to plant 14,960 native seedlings across 22-acres of memorial landscape to assist in reaching our goal of 150,000 planted trees across the memorial.

This year's plant site is located on the hillside across from skyline drive and is the most rocky, steep terrain in years. Participants need no prior experience to plant but must be at least 14 years of age or older to participate and be wearing boots to be allowed out to the planting area.

Our volunteer tree planters work towards reclaiming the memorial grounds, a former surface mine, as well as assist in creating a windbreak for the

40 memorial groves, restoring wildlife habitats, and creating a living memorial landscape meant to honor the actions of the passengers and crew of Flight 93.

For the first-time ever, public registration opened on March 13 and closed within two hours. We cannot believe that registration was full within two hours, but are so thankful for the success and passion from individuals wishing to support this project year after year.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available to help support event costs including gifts of \$250, \$500, and \$1,000; \$2,500+ sponsorship will be recognized on the event t-shirt.

Please contact Henry Scully at henry_scully@partner.nps.gov if you are interested in sponsoring Plant a Tree.

We look forward to supporting Flight 93 National Memorials' sustainable efforts to cultivate a living memorial landscape for generations to come!



2017 Plant a Tree Participants - Brenda Torrey



2017 Plant a Tree Participants - Brenda Torrey

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

Contact brooke_neel@partner.nps.gov if you are interested in volunteering for Plant a Tree prep day, or in the registration tent on either Friday or Saturday!

From the Director's Desk

Henry C. Scully



Dear Friends,

We are all excited about the upcoming Tower of Voices dedication on September 9, 2018. With over a foot of snow currently covering the recently

installed foundation for the magnificent structure, it is difficult to imagine the melodic chimes swaying in the breeze, the winding paths and the beautiful landscaping. However, planning for the eventful day and significant architectural masterpiece is in high gear. We are expecting thousands of visitors on that Sunday afternoon to honor the forty heroes and their voices through the music of the chimes.

Over the past two years, neighboring Powdermill Nature Reserve (part of Carnegie Museum) has been conducting studies to determine best locations where honey bees could live, multiply and produce honey at Flight 93 National Memorial. Subject to a few last steps, a few honey bee homes will be installed in current and soon-to-be installed wildflower meadows. This "pollination partnership" will not only be wonderful for the bees and wildflowers, but will be so beautiful for the approximately 400,000 annual visitors honoring the 40 heroes while having a peaceful experience strolling the trails.

We want to thank the National Park Service for their continued installation and maintenance of these fields as well as the Nimick Forbesway Foundation, Garden Club of the Alleghenies and Bayer who have contributed towards this beautiful ongoing project.

Thank you again for your continued support, volunteer efforts and faithful membership.

Sincerely,
Henry



Tower of Voices construction- Brenda Torrey



Volunteer Spotlight!

Meet our volunteer, Rosanne!

Rosanne began volunteering in 2012 and was inspired to support Flight 93 to learn more about the story and to share it with others. Rosanne feels her volunteer work is "a way to think more of others and to give back.... There is so much to the memorial design that most visitors do not understand. When they ask and it is explained, you can almost see the "Wow!" factor on their faces." Her most memorable moments at Flight 93 are "listening to the stories of others who have had a direct involvement in the Flight 93 Story."

- Rosanne Croyle, Friends of Flight 93 member and Flight 93 Ambassador

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